

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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51

ACTION OES-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ERDA-07 NRC-07 SY-05 SCCT-01

USSS-00 FEAE-00 ACDA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 PM-03 NSC-05 SS-15 EB-07

/105 W

----- 038091

R 061215Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9100

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY ROME

UNCLAS PARIS 11395

DEPT FOR OES

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TECH, FR

SUBJECT: TERRORIST EXPLOSIONS AT SITE OF NUCLEAR
POWER STATION

SUMMARY: TWO SMALL EXPLOSIONS, SET BY UNKNOWN PERSONS,
TOOK PLACE IN THE CONSTRUCTION SITE OF THE FESSEN-
HEIM NUCLEAR POWER STATION WITHOUT CAUSING DAMAGE
OR INJURIES. END SUMMARY

1. ON MAY 3 AT 1415, TWO CHARGES OF DYNAMITE
EXPLODED AT THE CONSTRUCTION SITE OF THE FESSEN-
HEIM NUCLEAR POWER REACTOR STATION. PERSONNEL
HAD BEEN EVACUATED EARLIER FOLLOWING A WARNING
GIVEN AT 1315. THUS NO ONE WAS INJURED. A FIRE,
IGNITED BY THE EXPLOSIONS, WAS QUICKLY EX-
TINGUISHED BY SECURITY TEAMS. ACCORDING TO
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ELECTRICITE DE FRANCE (EDF), WHICH IS IN CHARGE

OF THE REACTOR CONSTRUCTION, DAMAGE APPEARS TO BE UNIMPORTANT, REQUIRING NO MAJOR REPAIRS. AN INVESTIGATION IS UNDER WAY TO CONFIRM THIS. NO NUCLEAR MATERIAL WAS IN STOCK OR SERVICE AT THE FESSENHEIM REACTOR, WHICH IS NOT DUE TO BECOME OPERATIONAL UNTIL EARLY 1976. THOUGH NON-NUCLEAR TESTS BEGAN LAST MONTH, DELIVERIES OF ENRICHED FUEL WILL NOT TAKE PLACE UNTIL NEXT DECEMBER.

2) PRESS REACTION WAS MILD, DWINDLING TO ZERO BY MAY 6. LE MONDE CORRESPONDENT AT STRASBOURG WROTE THAT THE AUTHORS OF THIS ATTACK KNEW THE SITE AND UNDERSTOOD THE PRINCIPLES OF A NUCLEAR POWER STATION. THE FIRST EXPLOSION OCCURRED NEAR ONE OF THE ELEMENTS OF THE PRIMARY COOLING CIRCUIT OF THE REACTOR AND THE SECOND WAS PLACED IN A COLUMN DESTINED TO RECEIVE URANIUM FUEL. LE MONDE COMMENTED ON HIS REPORT THAT THE AMERICAN AUTHORITIES ARE STRONGLY PREOCCUPIED BY THIS KIND OF POSSIBILITY AND HAVE RECENTLY IMPOSED "DRACONIAN" SECURITY MEASURES ON PRIVATE FIRMS USING NUCLEAR POWER STATIONS.

3. COMMENT: EDF OFFICIAL CHARGED WITH NUCLEAR INFORMATION CONFIRMED ABOVE DETAILS TO SCIATT. HE SAID THAT THE SITE WAS FULLY ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC AS THE STATION WAS STILL UNDER CONSTRUCTION AND THAT SECURITY MEASURES WOULD HAVE BEEN IN FORCE HAD THE STATION BEEN IN OPERATION. HE ADDED THAT THE AL-SACIEN ECOLOGICAL MOVEMENT HAD RENOUNCED THE INCIDENT.
RUSH

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Disposition Remarks:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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05 JUL 2006

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